



PTO/SB/21 (02-04)

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**TRANSMITTAL
FORM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/688,398
	Filing Date	October 16, 2003
	First Named Inventor	Leland R. Adams et al.
	Art Unit	3762
	Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket Number	ALUNG-63494

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance communication to Technology Center (TC) <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please Identify below): - Form PTO-1449 (Modified) - Return postcard
Remarks CUSTOMER NO. 24201		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	FULWIDER PATTON LEE & UTECHT, LLP Ronald E. Perez, Reg. No. 36,891		
Signature			
Date	03/08/2004		

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.			
Typed or printed name	Ronald E. Perez, Reg. No. 36,891		
Signature		Date	03/08/2004

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Ronald E. Perez, Reg. No. 36,891

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/688,398
Applicant : Leland R. Adams et al.
Filed : October 16, 2003
Title : RETRACTABLE SHEATH INTRODUCER
Art Unit : 3762
Examiner : Not Yet Assigned

Docket No.: : ALUNG-63494
Customer No. : 24201

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO/1449 (Modified) have come to the attention of Applicant and are submitted to the Office under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97. Although copies of the U.S. patents are not enclosed, Applicant will produce them upon Examiner's request. (Pre-OG Notices, "Information Disclosure Statements May Be Filed Without Copies of U.S. Patents and Published Applications in Patent Applications Filed After June 30, 2003," from Deputy Commissioner Stephen Kunin, dated July 11, 2003.)

This statement is not a representation that all of the information cited is necessarily effective as prior art against the present application or that a prior art search was performed.

Because this Information Disclosure Statement is filed prior to the first Office action on the merits, no fee is required. The Commissioner is authorized, however, to charge any fees that may be required by this paper to Deposit Account No. 06-2425.

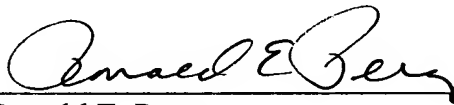
Applicant respectfully requests that the foregoing citations be considered and made of record. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner indicate consideration of the cited references by returning a copy of the attached form PTO 1449 (Modified) with initials and/or other appropriate marks.

Respectfully submitted,

FULWIDER PATTON LEE & UTECHT, LLP

Dated: March 8, 2004

By:

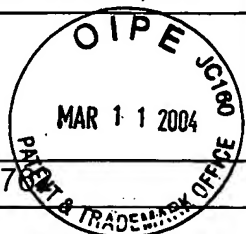


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FORM PTO-1449 (Modified)		Docket No.: ALUNG-63494		Serial No.: 10/688,398	
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT		Applicant: Leland R. Adams et al.			
		Filing Date: October 16, 2003		Art Unit: 3762	



UNITED STATES PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*Exr's. Inits.	Cite #	Patent No.	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date (if applicable)
		4,580,573	04/1986	Quinn	128	657	
		4,601,713	07/1986	Fuqua	604	280	
		4,631,053	12/1986	Taheri	604	49	
		4,710,181	12/1987	Fuqua	604	280	
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		4,850,975	07/1989	Furukawa	604	170.01	
		5,066,285	11/1991	Hillstead	604	164.01	
		5,125,902	06/1992	Berry et al.	604	164	
		5,183,464	02/1993	Dubrul et al.	128	3	
		5,234,425	08/1993	Fogarty et al.	606	1	
		5,256,150	10/1993	Quiachon et al.	604	171	
		5,336,164	08/1994	Snider et al.	604	4	
		5,487,727	01/1996	Snider et al.	604	49	
		5,501,663	03/1996	Hattler et al.	604	26	
		5,865,789	02/1999	Hattler	604	26	
		6,033,388	03/2000	Nordstrom et al.	604	264	
		6,053,904	04/2000	Scribner et al.	604	527	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Exr's. Init.	Cite #	Document No.	Date	Country	Class	Sub	Translation? Yes No

OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Date, Title, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)		
Exr's. Inits.	Ref.	Bibliographic Data

Examiner	Date Considered
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* Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. § 609. Draw line through citation (i.e., ~~citation~~) if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.